

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 H-01 AID-05 PRS-01 SS-15
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DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:JEBURGESS:ML
APPROVED BY PM - L.GELB
H - HDGELBER :NEA/RA COL HOBBS
ASD/ISA/NESA - CDR ZWART
ASD/PA - LTC BARR
EA/RA - COL. BAILEYIO/ML W. KRIEBEL
USIA - MR. FOURT (SUBS)
S/PRS - MR. PERENYI (INFO)
EUR/NE - MR. SHUMATE
AF/I - LTC WIRKUS

-----151526Z 049201 /53

R 151453Z PEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
CINCPAC
SECAF
CINCMAC
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
SECDEF
USIA WASHDC
JCS
CSAF
CNO
CINCPACFLT
CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 033932

MILITARY ADDEES ALSO FOR POLAD
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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, SOPN, XO, UK, HK, SN, RP

SUBJECT: DIEGO GARCIA MEDIA VISIT

REF: A. STATE 293579 (76) B. STATE 302964 (76)

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

1. REFTEL A OUTLINED PLANS FOR A FIRST MEDIA VISIT IN JANUARY TO DIEGO GARCIA. REFTEL B SUSPENDED PLANNING FOR THE JANUARY TIME-PERIOD, AND ASKED THAT CONCERNED EMBASSIES AND USIA REVIEW PLANS IN ORDER TO BE PREPARED FOR A MEDIA VISIT ON APPROX FORTY DAYS NOTICE. WE ARE NOW PREPARED TO PLAN FOR A ONE-TIME VISIT BY THE PRESS TO DIEGO GARCIA IN APRIL.

2. AS STATED IN REFTEL A AND SUBSEQUENT TRAFFIC, VISIT WILL UTILIZE MAC C-141, AND WILL INVOLVE APPROX 18 US AND 17 UK MEDIA REPS, PLUS AT LEAST ONE US AND ONE UK REPRESENTATIVE, AND MILITARY ESCORTS/PAO. USIA DEFENSE AFFAIRS ADVISOR JOE FOURT WILL ACCOMPANY MEDIA. MEDIA (ONLY) WILL BE REQUIRED TO REIMBURSE USG FOR MAC C-141 TRANSPORTATION, WHICH WOULD STAGE FROM HONG KONG AND SINGAPORE. DUE TO SEVERELY LIMITED FACILITIES AT DIEGO GARCIA, NO REPEAT NO OVERNIGHT VISIT IS

PLANNED.

3. MEDIA INVITATIONS WILL BE ISSUED THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF VISIT BY ASD/PA FOR US MEDIA, AND BY HMG FOR UK MEDIA. WORDING OF JOINT INVITATIONS WILL BE COORDINATED IN WASHINGTON BY DEPT AND BRITISH EMBASSY. US MEDIA SELECTIONS WILL BE MADE BY ASD/PA AND DEPT, SUBJECT TO SEAT LIMITATIONS ABOVE. FYI: US AND UK REPS HAVE DISCUSSED THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ISSUE OF THIRD-COUNTRY MEDIA, AND HAVE CONCLUDED THAT LIMITED NUMBER OF SEATS AND EXTENSIVE MEDIA APPLICANT LIST MILITATE AGAINST INCLUSION OF OTHER THAN US-UK MEDIA. THE QUOTE NATIONALITY OF THE MEDIA/NEWS SERVICE/NETWORK UNQUOTE, AND NOT THE NATIONALITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL, WILL GOVERN US, AND PRESUMABLY BRITISH, DECISIONS.

4. FYI: AUSTRALIANS HAVE ASKED USG AND HMG FOR PERMISSION TO FLY AUSTRALIAN MEDIA TO DIEGO GARCIA IN RAAF P-3. WE INTEND TO CONCUR IN AND ASSUME HMG WILL APPROVE SUCH A VISIT AFTER RPT AFTER US AND UK JOURNALISTS HAVE VISITED THE ISLAND. END FYI.

5. SUBJECT TO EMBASSY AND CINCPAC COMMENTS REQUESTED BELOW, WE PROPOSE TO FOLLOW THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE IN APRIL:

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
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MON,APR 4(AM) JOURNALIST PICKUP HONG KONG

MON,APR 4(EVE) REMAIN OVERNIGHT SINGAPORE

TUES,APR5 (AM) DEPART SINGAPORE

TUES,APR 5(PM) MEDIA VISIT DIEGO GARCIA

TUES,APR 5(NITE) DEPART DIEGO GARCIA

TUES, APR 5 (NITE) REMAIN OVERNIGHT SINGAPORE

WED, APR 6(AM) DEPART SINGAPORE

WED, APR 6 (PM) MEDIA RETURN HONG KONG

6. FOR LONDON: REQUEST YOU SEEK FCO APPROVAL OF THE
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ABOVE PLAN. FYI, UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON HAS BEEN INFORMED.
END FYI.

7. FOR SINGAPORE, HONG KONG: REQUEST YOUR ASSESSMENT OF
HOST GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL REACTION, IF ANY, WHICH THIS PLAN
MIGHT CAUSE.

8. FOR CINCPAC: CONFIRMING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS, REQUEST
YOUR ASSESSMENT OF COMPATIBILITY WITH ON-GOING ACTIVITIES
AT DIEGO GARCIA.

9. FOR SAFOI/CINCMAC: TAKE NECESSARY PRELIMINARY ACTIONS
TO FURNISH AIRCRAFT SUPPORT AS OUTLINED ABOVE.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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